(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और यदि नहीं तो उसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(ग) क्या वर्ष 1991-92 और 1992-93 के दौरान इस प्राकृतिक आपदा राहत निधि से राज्यों ने कोई लाभ प्राप्त किया है, यदि हां, तो इसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुल्लापल्ली रामचन्द्रन) : (क) और (ख) सूखे सहित प्राकृतिक आपदायें आने पर राहत उपाय करने के लिए आपदा राहत कोष के अंतर्गत उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार के पास 86.00 करोड़ रुपए का एक वार्षिक आबंटन उपलब्ध है।

(ग) वर्ष 1991-92 तथा 1992-93 के दौरान उत्तर प्रदेश के आपदा राहत कोष के अंतर्गत 86.00-86.00 करोड़ रुपए का वार्षिक आबंटन किया गया है।

Payment to farmers under crop insurance Scheme in Gujarat

265. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of cases are pending for payment of Crop Insurance to the farmers of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the amount due to these farmers; and

(c) by when the Insurance companies are likely to make the payment to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) Since implementation of the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Schme (CCIS) in Gujarat w.e.f. 1-4-1985 and upto the end of Rabi 1991-92 an amount of Rs. 576.06 crore was payable, out of which an amount of Rs. 375.42 crore has since been paid to the farmers covered under the scheme in the State. The balance amount of Rs. 200.64 crore is yet to be paid. Action has been initiated to settle these claims after proper scrutiny.

Diversion of land under wheat cultivation to cash crops

266. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a large scale diversion of land under wheat cultivation to cash crops in recent years;

(b) if so, the details of factors responsible for such shift;

(c) what is the impact of such a diversion on the wheat production; and

(d) what are the steps taken by Government to stop such conversion and its adverse impact on food production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No, Sir. There is no evidence of large scale diversion of area under wheat cultivation to cash crops in resent years.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) The Government is implementing various programmes including supply of subsidised yield increasing inputs like high yielding seeds, fertilisers, plant protection chemicals, transfer of technology, credit and market support in order to increase the productivity and production of various foodgrains including wheat.

Drought in Maharashtra

267. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Central Team has visited the drought affected areas of Maharashtra recently;